

**MEDICAID-
FUNDED PEER SUPPORT
SERVICES AND THE TRAINING AND
CERTIFICATION OF PEER SPECIALISTS**

***Georgia's Foundations in
Lived Experience***

CHIPRA Quality Demonstration Grant

**Care Management Entities: A Model to Improve Child Behavioral Health Outcomes
A Multi-State Collaborative of Maryland, Georgia, and Wyoming**

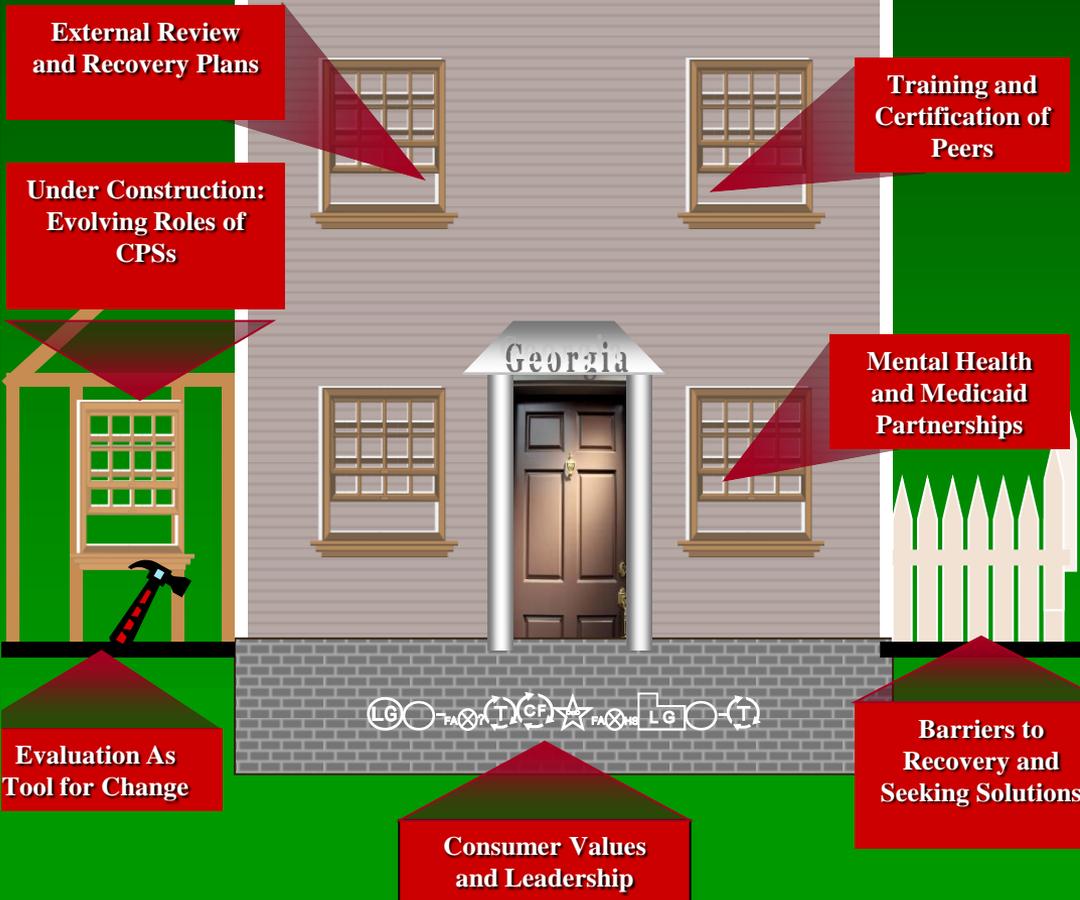
All States Meeting

Atlanta, Georgia

March 14-15, 2012



Recovery *and* Transforming Mental Health Care

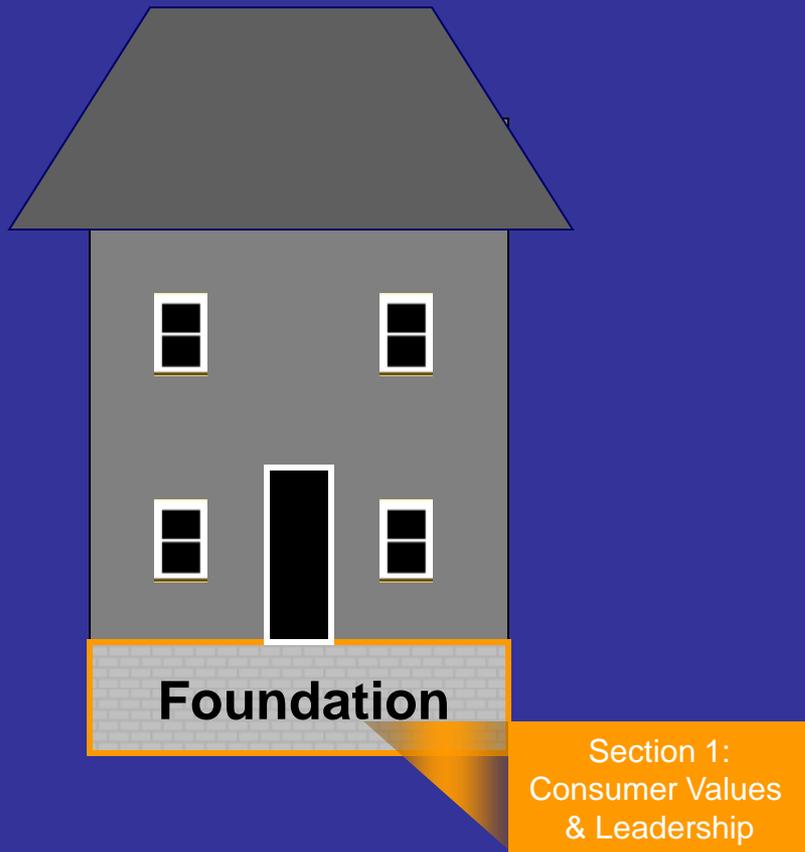


The State of Georgia Peer Supports Project

- Acquired Medicaid financial participation in 1999
- Have a workforce of nearly 700 Certified Peer Specialists
- Promote concept of self-directed recovery
- In FY11, agencies provided more than \$16M of service.

Consumer Values and Leadership

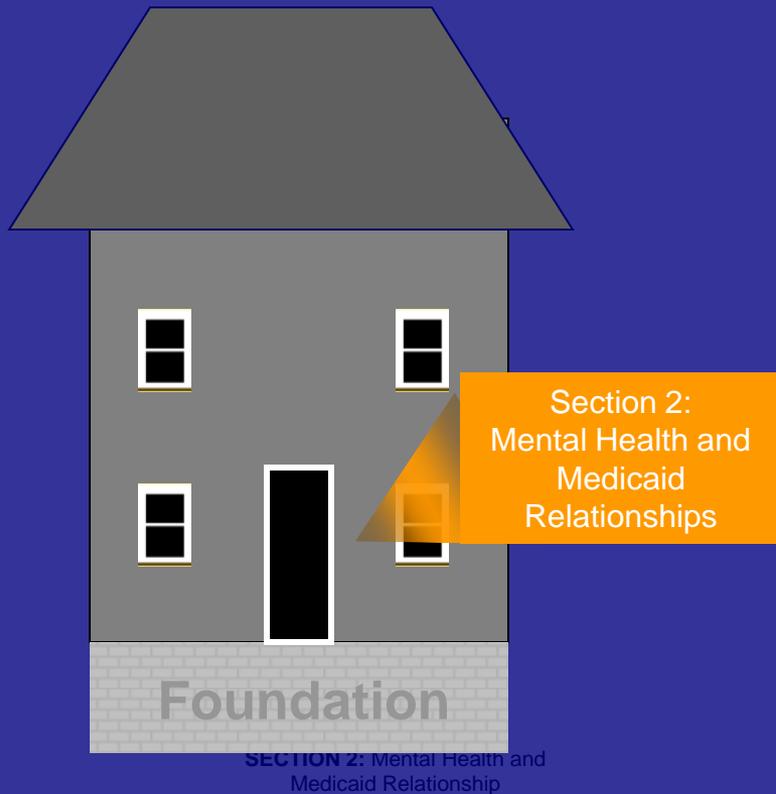
Foundation of Consumer Values and Leadership



- Advocacy
- Training in governance
- Setting Priorities
- Establishing Relationships with Key Leaders

Mental Health and Medicaid Relationships

Medicaid Overview



- funded through combined State and federal dollars (in Georgia, approximately 65% federal, 35% state)
- Medicaid federal sets parameters for programs; states define services, set rates, and implement within these parameters
- 2007 SMDL: #07-011

Mental Health and Medicaid Relationships

Important Medicaid considerations for Peer Supports per SMDL#07-011

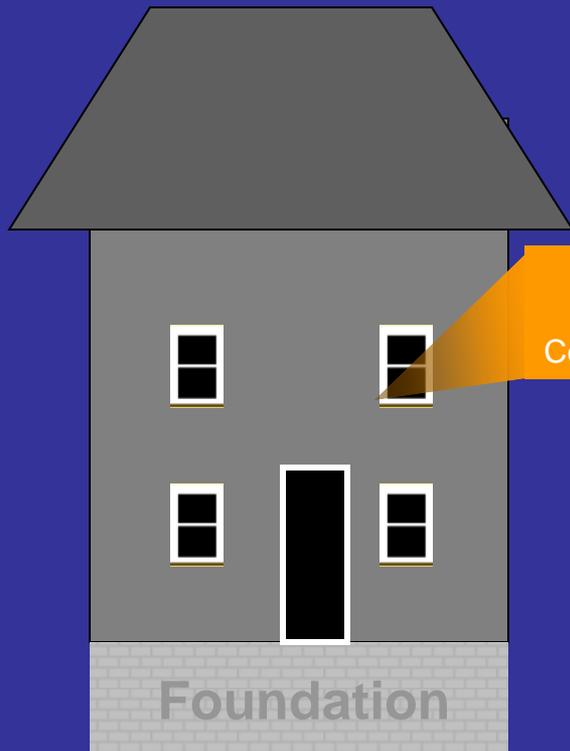
“Peer support services are an evidence-based mental health model of care which consists of a qualified peer support provider who assists individuals with their recovery from mental illness and substance use disorders. CMS recognizes that the experiences of peer support providers, as consumers of mental health and substance use services, can be an important component in a State’s delivery of effective treatment. CMS is reaffirming its commitment to State flexibility, increased innovation, consumer choice, self-direction, recovery, and consumer protection through approval of these services.”

Mental Health and Medicaid Relationships

SMD Requires:

- Supervision by an MHP (Supervision is state defined, MHP is state defined)
- Care Coordination
 - Must be coordinated within a comprehensive, individualized plan of care
 - Engage and empowered participants (person-centered)
- Training and Credentialing
 - As defined by state
 - “certification” required
 - Continuing Education

Training & Certification of Peers



Section 3:
Training And
Certification of Peers

THE TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION OF PEERS

- **NineDay Training**
- **Consists of 42 Modules**
- **Certification only after passing an oral and written exam**

Training & Certification of Peers

Candidates for certification training will:

- Identify themselves as former or current consumer of mental health or dual diagnosis services and are well-grounded in their own recovery
- Be well grounded in their own recovery experience with at least one year between diagnosis and application to the training
- Hold a High School diploma or GED (including diploma earned in Special Education)
- Demonstrate basic reading comprehension and written communication
- Have demonstrated experience with leadership, including advocacy and or creation/implementation of peer-to-peer services

Training & Certification of Peers

Training includes:

- Recovery stages and process,
- Ethics and Boundaries,
- Recovery stories as Recovery Tools,
- Setting and accomplishing Recovery goals,
- Power/conflict in the workplace,
- Facilitating Recovery dialogues,
- Orientation to the Georgia system, and more...

Training & Certification of Peers

And is built upon **5 Fundamental Beliefs about the Way Life is:**

- 1) Everyone has the ability to learn and grow
- 2) People's beliefs determine their behavior
- 3) People think their way through life
- 4) Whatever people focus on is what they give power to
- 5) Life's experiences are the best teacher

Training & Certification of Peers

Other Key Components

- Code of Ethics

- Continuing Education

- Technology Support

- The Peer Support Institute

- Tutoring



Overcoming Barriers



Overcoming Barriers

Changing Hearts



Changing Heads

Overcoming Barriers

Changing Heads



- Financial Support of Peer Support Services
- Policy, Rules, and Mandates surrounding Peer Support Services
 - Competent Work Force Trained
- Consumers Provided Knowledge leading to Empowerment

Overcoming Barriers

Changing Hearts

“I’m the evidence”

Sharing Recovery Stories

Modeling the Evidence



Demonstrated Competency

Inspiring Others' Evidence

Recovery Agents

More Difficult

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* Slides based upon a framework by Fricks, Marshall, Tiegreen: 2006